GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2259
ANSWERED ON:11.12.2015
Air/DD Coverage
Bhagat Shri Bodh Singh;Nete Shri Ashok Mahadeorao;Nishank Dr. Ramesh Pokhriyal;Noor Smt. Mausam;P. Shri Nagarajan;Pal Shri Jagdambika;Patle Smt. Kamla Devi

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of All India Radio (AIR) and Doordarshan (DD) stations in the country, location and State/UT-wise;

(b) whether the Government proposes to expand the AIR/DD network by establishing more number of stations in various States in the country, where Doordarshan/Radio broadcast is not available, if so, the details thereof, State/ UT-wise including Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Chhattisgarh along with the time frame fixed for operationalising the same;

(c) whether the broadcast of All India Radio has improved in terms of reach/ coverage throughout the country in the past ten years, if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the popularity of AIR has been affected due to poor quality or low coverage, if so, the corrective measures taken by the Government in this regard; and

(e) the concrete steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to increase radio density and DD coverage in the country particularly in rural/ remote/ backward/ tribal regions of the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
{COL RAJYAVARDHAN RATHORE (Retd.) }

(a) Prasar Bharati has informed that as far as All India Radio (AIR) is concerned, total 414 nos. of AIR Broadcasting Stations are functioning in the country. Location and State/ UT-wise details of these stations are given at Annexure-I.
As regards Doordarshan (DD), there are, at present, 67 Doordarshan Kendras (Studio centres) and 1416 transmitters in the country. State/ UT wise locations of Doordarshan stations in the country, are given at Annexure-II.
(b) As far as AIR is concerned, schemes for setting up of 88 nos. of new AIR Broadcasting Stations have been approved. State/UT-wise details are given in Annexure-III.
As regards Doordarshan, all the areas uncovered by terrestrial transmission (including those located in Madhya Pradesh & Chhattisgarh) alongwith rest of the country, have been provided with multi channel TV coverage through Doordarshan's free-to-air DTH service, "DD Free Dish". DTH signals can be received anywhere in the country with the help of small sized dish receive units.
Following new TV transmitter projects in Jammu & Kashmir are presently under implementation:
1. High Power Transmitters (HPTs), Rajouri (DD1 & DD News)
2. HPT, Green Ridge
3. HPT, Himbotingla
4. HPT Natha Top (Patnitop).

The Timeline for transmitters at Rajouri is 2016 and for other locations is 2017.
(c) At the end of year 2005, AIR had 145 MW Transmitters & 123 FM transmitters in the network and AIR coverage (MW + FM) was nearly 92.00 % of the area and 99.20 % of the total population of the country. However, FM coverage was nearly 20.00 % of the area and 30.00 % of the total population of the country. As on date, AIR has 145 MW Transmitters & 409 FM transmitters in the network , including 194 nos. of 100 Watt FM Relay transmitter for localized coverage and present AIR coverage (MW + FM) is unchanged. However, FM Coverage has increased from 20% to 32.50% by the area and from 30% to 45.00% by the total population of the country.

(d) No, Madam. All India Radio is continuously improving its network to enhance the quality of broadcast. Schemes have been approved for replacement of old outlived programme production equipment & transmitters and installation of new
setups from time to time under Five Year Plans.

(e) All India Radio has taken following steps to increase radio density in the rural/remote/backward/tribal region:
(i) High Power MW transmitters have already been installed at capital /major cities of the states which are presently providing radio coverage to rural/remote/backward/tribal region of the respective states.
(ii) AIR Broadcasting Centres have also been set up specially in backward/ tribal areas of the country.
(iii) New FM transmitters are also being set up in the country including rural/ remote/ backward/ tribal region of the country.
(iv) 21 radio channels (Programmes) of AIR have been made available on Doordarshan's DTH platform in Ku-band (DD FREE DISH) and these can be received through a set top box all over the country with the help of small sized dish antenna receive units.
(v) Popular AIR Channels have also been provided on internet and Android, iOS & Windows based applications.
As regards DD, in view of multi channel coverage having been provided to all the areas uncovered by terrestrial transmission

(including those located in rural/ remote/ backward/tribal regions) along with rest of the country, through Doordarshan's free to air DTH service, new transmitters for expansion of terrestrial coverage are now not envisaged except a few in border areas.

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